



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Library to Host Writing Workshops to Chronicle the History of Downtown San Diego**

*Program is Part of the Library's "In the Shadow of Petco Park Project"*

**SAN DIEGO** – The City of San Diego Public Library will host six writing workshops that focus on personal stories about the history of downtown San Diego. The workshops will be held Wednesdays in the Commission Room on the third floor of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego at 6 pm on the following dates; Sept. 15, Sept. 22, Sept. 29, Oct. 6, Oct. 13, and Oct. 20. This event is free to the public.

The construction of the new San Diego Padres ballpark in downtown San Diego and the gentrification of the area are changing the face of downtown San Diego. The "In the Shadow of Petco Park" project is collecting stories of people affected by these changes

Whether you've just moved to one of the downtown neighborhoods or your family has been here for generations, San Diegans with roots in downtown are invited to join the writing collective as we consider the changing cityscape and urban dreams of the area.

The writing workshops will focus on each participant producing a personal history and perspective that will form a community response to urban development, such as the building of Petco Park. The workshops will also be a way for each participant to write a collective history that will be distributed to future urban planners and community groups.

The workshops will be led by Elizabeth Steeby – a graduate writing instructor at the University of California, San Diego – and will focus on each participant's particular interests in describing their downtown experience. The workshops will emphasize the importance of considering often unheard community voices in the midst of large-scale urban development.

"In the Shadow of Petco Park" is a California Story Fund project, funded by the California Council for the Humanities. For more information, visit the Library on the City's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/> or call the Central Library at 619-236-5800.

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